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On March 25, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Sylvia E. Arnold



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 016301-040300US
Client Ref. No.
AMAT/4142/PDD/LOW K/JW

Handwritten signature and date: 4/5/02

drawing corrections

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hari Ponnekanti et al.

Application No.: 09/502,126

Filed: February 10, 2000

For: A PROCESS AND AN
INTEGRATED TOOL FOR LOW K
DIELECTRIC DEPOSITION
INCLUDING A PECVD CAPPING
MODULE

Examiner: Bret Chen

Art Unit: 1762

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

APR 09 2002

TC 1700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 25, 2001, requiring an election of the invention to be examined, reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the following election, remarks and amendments. A petition for a five month extension of time accompanies this response.

Election of Invention

The Examiner has indicated that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I. Claims 1-22, drawn to an apparatus, classified in Class 118, subclass 719.

Group II. Claims 23-61, drawn to a method, classified in class 427, subclass 226.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I drawn to claims 1-22 without traverse, and cancel the non-elected Group II claims (claims 23-61).

Preliminary Amendments

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 4, line 18, please delete "12" and insert --8--.

On page 5, line 26, after "prior" please insert --to--.

On page 7, line 1, please delete "firm" and insert --film--.

On page 7, line 26, after "module" please insert --and high pressure deposition module--.

On page 7, line 28, after "module" please insert --and high pressure deposition module--.

On page 9, line 10, please delete "Isolatable means that the processing regions have a confined plasma zone separate from the adjacent region which is selectively communicable with the adjacent region via an exhaust system."

On page 9, line 21, after "regions" please insert --or--.

On page 9, line 22, after "carried out" please insert --. Isolated processes being carried out in isolatable regions means that the processing regions have a confined plasma zone separate from the adjacent region which is selectively communicable with the adjacent region via an exhaust system.--

On page 10, line 16, after "for" please delete "an" and insert --a--.

On page 10, line 17, after "depositing" please delete "an" and insert --a--.

On page 10, line 26, after "as" please delete "a" and insert --an--.

On page 11, line 8, please delete "201".

On page 11, line 21, please delete "such as" and insert --and--.

On page 12, line 12, please delete "135".

On page 12, line 23, after "access" please insert --to--.

On page 13, line 14, please delete "112" and insert --122--.

On page 14, line 14, please delete "handler127" and insert --handler 127--.